

# THE SENTINEL



OFFICIAL SAFETY NEWSLETTER OF CIVIL AIR PATROL

## What's a Safety Culture ?

In the April issue of Sentinel safety culture was mentioned several times in the context of the lesson being discussed. As we go forward more about safety culture and how to apply it to your relationship with Civil Air Patrol will be explored.

According to work done by the Transport of Canada a good gage of safety culture is "how we do things around here". A safety culture may be slow to mature, but with leadership support, it can be accomplished. So what is a safety culture and how can you implement such a concept?

The first thing is to educate the C.A.P. membership to understand the hazards and risk involved in our operations and task responsibilities. As this process is learned and understood the senior member will need to work continuously as an individual and as a team depending on the operation at hand.

Safety culture must have no tolerance of willful violations of the regulations or policies of the Civil Air Patrol. Errors must be understood and the membership knows and agrees on what is acceptable and what is unacceptable. Another way to think about this challenge to the safety culture can be termed "Procedural Intentional Non-Compliance" (PINC). This is simply rule breaking and once you start deviating from the rules you are twice as likely to be involved in an accident. In a proactive safety culture we are encouraged to voice safety concerns and when safety concerns are reported they have to be analyzed and appropriate action is to be taken. There should be

recognition for those members who bring safety concerns to the CAP leadership, at any level; and that leadership would experience a high probability of success in our safety culture by keeping the absence of peer pressure to the member voicing their issue of safety concerns. This is challenging in an organization that recognizes a structure with rank, but when it comes to safety, rank must be put aside.

Developing a safety culture in your unit should be looked at as learning culture. You as the membership are encouraged to develop and apply your own skills and knowledge to enhance organizational safety. The leadership of the CAP should be updating the membership on safety issues.

A very big element of a successful safety culture is the use of safety reports that are made available to the membership so everyone learns process is learned and understood the cadet or the lessons. This is accomplished on all levels in Squadron leadership, Group, Wing, and the National Headquarters.

How do we in the C.A.P. encourage a positive safety culture? It starts with the management practicing what it preaches regarding safety and the management allocates adequate resources to maintain an operation that is efficient and safe.

It is also the management responsibility to accept knowledge safety concerns and suggestions. The membership is deserving in a successful safety culture in receiving feedback on decisions, even if the decision is to do nothing, and all actions are explained with timely feedback, clear and concise. Communication and education will be important for successful safety results.

**"Don't do me any favors, just follow the rules"**



CAP Safety Team

Col Lyle Letteer, CAP/SE  
w4ke@mindspring.com

Maj Karen DeMars, GLR/SE  
kdemars@jmdata.net

Maj Charles Cranford, MER/SE  
ccranford@mer.cap.gov

Lt Col Bruce Brown NER/SE  
bbrown@ner.cap.gov

Capt Michael Hartell, NCR/SE  
mike@aswsusa.com

Lt Col Harold W. Jaynes, PCR/SE  
wallyjaynes@hawaiilink.net

Capt Larry E. Burch, RMR/SE  
Larry.Burch@noaa.gov

Maj Ernest C. Manzano, SER/SE  
emanzano@interv.net

Maj Larry Mattiello, SWR/SE  
lmattiello@airsure.com

Larry Mattiello Maj CAP, Editor  
Phone: 917-969-1812 Fax: 972-991-5855  
lmattiello@airsure.com

HQ Civil Air Patrol/SE  
105 South Hansell Street  
Maxwell AFB AL 36112-6332

## Sun Safety Tips

### Fun in the Sun?

As summer fun in the sun looms in the near future this would be a good time to review the dangers of too much of a good thing. May is Melanoma awareness month and with outdoor activities planned for the cadets, encampments, and many other CAP outdoor activities, understanding the dangers of this dreadful cancer and how to prevent it or catch it early should be explained at this time.

Melanoma, also called skin cancer, is the fastest growing cancer in the United States and Worldwide. It is the most common cancer among young adults. This year Melanoma will take 7,800 of our loved ones from us. This equates to one person dying every hour of every day from this disease. There have been no new treatments for this disease in nearly 30 years and no effective medical therapy for metastatic Melanoma cancer.

Melanoma occurs across all ethnic groups, economic levels, and ages including pediatrics. More than 106,000 Americans will be diagnosed with Melanoma this year and an estimated 8,000 will die from this disease within the next twelve months.

As Melanoma is the most deadly form of skin cancer it is preventable and treatable if caught early, but there is no cure for this extremely aggressive form of cancer.

Some of signs of Melanoma? Melanoma, both cancerous and malignant, have lesions that are typically irregular in shape. The Melanoma lesions often have uneven borders that are ragged or notched. Melanoma lesions often contain many shades of brown, black, or even pink. The diameter of Melanoma lesions are often more than 6 millimeters or greater than 1/4 inches. Evolving Melanoma lesions often grow in size or change in height rapidly. It is always a good idea to do a self examination, but having a doctor check you, especially should you suspect something or you had been exposed to prolonged sunlight and have suffered some burns, is always the best form of prevention or diagnosis. Don't fool with this disease!

1. Avoid direct exposure to the sun when UVA and UVB rays are the strongest between 10am and 4pm.
2. Use sunscreen with UVA/UVB protection and SPF 30. Apply frequently during the day, even on a cloudy day. The rays pass through the clouds and can be more severe.
3. Wear a hat and light-weight clothing to cover exposed skin.
4. Wear sunglasses with UV protection to reduce sun radiation damage.
5. Always seek shade from the sun.
6. Sunburns and suntans increase your risk of skin cancer.
7. Avoid tanning beds.
8. Do periodic self checks and see a professional if you suspect something.

Enjoy your summer activities, but be aware of the danger too much fun in the sun can do to you and your body. As with any activity always be safe.

Thank you to Senior Member Alan O'Martin of the Addison Eagles in Texas for sharing this information. He lost his son Bradley from this dreadful cancer just last year.

### The New Safety Leadership

The last Sentinel advised changes at National and the new leadership with respect to Safety. The National Safety Officer, Col Lyle Letteer is in the next issue of the CAP Volunteer. His Air Assistant National Safety Director, originally from the NY and Sentinel Editor is myself, Larry Mattiello. I am assigned to National, as well as SWR and Texas Safety Director. Originally from the NY and specialized in Aviation Insurance and Risk Management for nearly as long. I am a member of the Helicopter Association International Safety Committee, their Board of Directors, and I am often a speaker at safety workshops or seminars. As last year's Safety Officer of the year National, SWR, and Texas Wing, I am looking forward to using my experience and education to help CAP in achieving a successful safety culture and results.

**Remember to check the National Safety Web site for additional safety items and other sites**

**"Do the right thing, for the right reason, at the right time, every time"**